

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 FREETO 02310 261626Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

CPR-01 EUR-08 NEA-07 /045 W

-----083105 261726Z /43

R 261500Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5784

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L FREETOWN 2310

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, SL, TC

SUBJECT: NEW U.K. AMBASSADOR TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

REF: FREETOWN 2186

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER DAVID A. ROBERTS TOLD ME AGREEMENT HAD BEEN RECEIVED FOR HIM TO BE NAMED AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. ROBERTS ASKED THAT USG HOLD INFORMATION IN STRICT CONFIDENCE UNTIL APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENT MADE BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

2. FORMER AMBASSADOR SAMUELS CHARACTERIZED ROBERTS AS QUOTE UNCOMMUNICATIVE, UNWILLING TO RECIPROCATATE OFFICE CALLS AND RARELY WILLING TO SHARE INFORMATION. UNQUOTE. HE ALSO STATED IN A WRITTEN SKETCH OF ROBERTS THAT QUOTE HIS WIFE DID NOT GET ALONG WELL WITH OTHER DIPLOMATIC WIVES UNQUOTE AND QUOTE TOGETHER THEY HAVE BEEN ALL BUT OSTRACIZED FROM THE DIPLOMATIC SOCIAL WORLD. UNQUOTE.

3. ALTHOUGH MY CONTACTS WITH ROBERTS WERE NOT AS FREQUENT AS THOSE OF AMBASSADOR SAMUELS BOTH I AND MY WIFE FOUND THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ROBERTS FRIENDLY IN SOCIAL SETTINGS AND WILLING TO RESPOND IF ASKED THE RIGHT QUESTIONS. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HE TOLD ME HE FELT ILL-AT-EASE IN AFRICA AND FELT HIS TALENTS AS AN ARABIST WERE BEING WASTED. NEVER-THELESS, ON ONE OCCASION HE DID PROVOKE BOTH THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AND MYSELF BY MAKING A DEMARCHE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON NAMIBIA WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION, EVEN

THOUGH OUR JOINT INSTRUCTIONS CALLED FOR SUCH CONSULTATION.

4. ROBERTS PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS AMBASSADOR TO A SMALL CARIBBEAN COUNTRY AND IN SYRIA PRIOR TO COMING TO SIERRA LEONE. THIS IS HIS SECOND MARRIAGE. HE HAS ONE TEEN AGE DAUGHTER BY HIS FIRST MARRIAGE AND MAY ALSO HAVE AN OLDER SON.

5. REFTEL IS BEING REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFORMATION.
NORTH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FREETO02310
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770266-0649
Format: TEL
From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770720/aaaaaqnf.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 FREETOWN 2186
Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1752263
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW U.K. AMBASSADOR TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
TAGS: PDIP, SL, TC, UK, (ROBERTS, DAVID A)
To: ABU DHABI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8cfc0d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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